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AUG 01 2006

Serial No. 09/760,580
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Claims 1-24 are pending in the application, and claims 3-14, 17-20, and 22-23 have been withdrawn from consideration.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner indicate acceptance of the drawings.

Claims 1-2, 15-16, 21, and 24 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,782,088 to Gabara. Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

The Examiner relied upon step 202 illustrated in Fig. 3 of Gabara as alleged disclosure of the claimed feature of "a call used to select one of plural communication services" and relied upon the call forwarding described in Gabara as alleged disclosure "one of plurality of communication services." Applicants respectfully submit that Gabara only describes the one communication service of downloading a call forwarding number to a caller. As Figs. 3 and 4 of Gabara illustrate, at no point is a caller presented with any selection between any plural communication services. Both of these figures illustrate a call forwarding number being downloaded to the caller, after which the caller is required to take the telephone off the hook to initiate a new call to the call forwarding number. The Examiner relied upon call forwarding as one of plurality of communication services that a subscriber may subscribe to, but Gabara only describes a subscriber having this service as an alternative to blind forwarding and verbal greeting, and does not disclose any feature where the caller selects amongst plural services on the initial call. Indeed, Gabara describes the downloading scheme as an improvement and replacement for blind forwarding and verbal greeting. Please see, e.g., col. 2, lines 42-52 of Gabara. Therefore, Gabara does not disclose a call being used to select one of plural communication services, as claimed. This difference is particularly significant in the situation

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where “the original telephone number of the subscriber is no longer in service”—which the Examiner applied to the claimed feature of “non-connectable state”—because Gabara describes its downloading scheme as the best service for such a situation, and, in fact, teaches away from any alternative service.

In other words, Gabara, as cited and relied upon by the Examiner, fails to disclose,

“[a] communication service information providing method comprising the steps of:

receiving a call used to select one of plural communication services, which is transmitted from a calling subscriber to a called subscriber that subscribes to the plurality of communication services; and

providing information related to another communication service subscribed to by the called subscriber with respect to the calling subscriber without connecting by the other communication service when a communication to the called subscriber is in a non-connectable state,” as recited in claim 1. (Emphasis added)

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 1 is patentable over Gabara for at least the foregoing reasons. Claims 2, 15-16, 21, and 24 incorporate features that correspond to those of claim 1 cited above, and are, therefore, patentable over Gabara for at least the same reasons.

The above statements on the disclosure in the cited reference represent the present opinions of the undersigned attorney. The Examiner is respectfully requested to specifically indicate those portions of the reference that provide the basis for a view contrary to any of the above-stated opinions.

In view of the remarks set forth above, this application is in condition for allowance which action is respectfully requested. However, if for any reason the Examiner should consider this application not to be in condition for allowance, the Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned attorney at the number listed below prior to issuing a further Action.

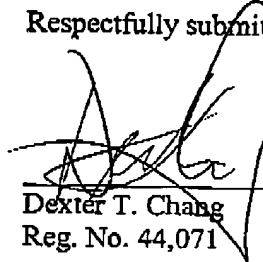
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Respectfully submitted,


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